# THE SUBURBAN CITIZEN.

## WASHINGTON, - D. C.

After all, it must be confessed that Queen Wilhelmina got almost as much advertisement out of it as if she had accepted an American.

"Government by injunction" will certainly disappear when woman suffrage obtains. A Wisconsin Judge has enjoined a wife from calling her husband names.

The recent trials of Count Zeppelin's airship seem to have been successful. In future when one goes up in a balloon in Europe one won't come down in Australia or South Africa.

Young Alfred Gwynne Vanderbilt, who is to get married next spring, has already rented a $1,000,000 cottage at Newport. If Alf expects to pay the rent out of his $75 a month salary as a railroad clerk he will have to do some pretty close figuring on his other expenses.

Without any intention of disturbing the friendly relations between Italy and the United States, it may be remarked that if Italy would refrain from shipping her anarchists to this country there would be no complaint of their hatching anarchist plots after their arrival.

A touch of grim humor is added to the story of Alvord's robbery by the report, credited on Wall street, that Alvord was one of a committee of three experts appointed by the directors or the First National to devise a system for them that would make stealing impossible.

The cadets and officers at Annapolis have never been allowed to lift their caps when greeting ladies, but have been restricted to the regulation "hand salute"—touching the cap with the hand. A new order has now gone into effect permitting them to raise their caps in accordance with the customs of civilization.

According to the annual report of the United States Commissioner of Education nearly 17,000,000 pupils are regularly attending public or private schools. Add to this the great army of men and women employed in teaching them and it is seen that over one-fourth of the entire population of the country is either instructing or being instructed. Education is manifestly the leading industry of the American people—a fact of cheerful significance.

The germ idea has now begun to scare the users of telephones. An apparatus has been invented for sterilizing the mouthpieces of telephones by electricity. The receiver has a hollow at one end, in which is placed some fibrous material, with a pair of electrodes buried in it which can receive a current of electricity from any convenient source of supply, presumably the telephone battery itself. In the process of cleaning the mouth piece the current passes through the fibrous material and sterilizes any bacilli that may be there.

An impression pretty generally prevails throughout the country that most of the public lands have been taken up, but the annual report of the commissioner of the general land office shows that 917,135,880 acres of Uncle Sam's farm still remain open to settlement, which is 179,477,702 acres more than have been taken up since the beginning of the Government. Besides this, 154,745,782 acres have been withdrawn from settlement and reserved as a park, for the cultivation of forestry and for other purposes. There now remain unsurveyed 602,554,915 acres. The biggest part of this is in Alaska, where 360,000,000 acres are open to settlement.

J. Sim Wallace, M. D., in a recent volume on the cause and prevention of decay in teeth, attributes the great and increasing prevalence of dental caries among civilized nations to the elimination of the coarser and more fibrous parts of foodstuffs by modern methods of manufacture, and points out that this may act in two ways. Firstly, owing to the absence of mechanically detergent constituents of food, more of the fermentable, acid-producing and germ-sustaining parts of the latter remain in contact with the teeth for some time after meals; and, secondly, that the tongue, being less actively employed during the act of chewing and swallowing, fails to attain its full size and exercise its normal important function in modelling the dental arches, so that irregularities arising from crowding and malposition of the teeth serve to increase their predisposition to caries.

# RICHEST OF ALL SAVAGES

### COMING DISTRIBUTION OF WEALTH IN INDIAN TERRITORY.

**The Work of the Commission That Is Reorganizing Its Government—Land and Money Are to Be Divided Among Five Tribes—How the Outlook Is Viewed.**

Affairs in the Indian Territory are now in rather a chaotic condition in consequence of the reorganization of its government, which is in progress. A commission made up of three members with 300 assistants is now engaged in making up the final roll of the Indians of the different tribes, appraising their land and placing them on their allotments. By Jan. 1, 1901, this work will have been finished and the Indians will be ready to take out their naturalization papers as citizens of the United States. To bring this to a conclusion has involved many years of labor and the expenditure of $1,000,000.

"So long as grass grows and water runs," by the terms of this nation's promise made in 1832, the Cherokee, Creeks, Seminoles, Chickasaws and Choctaws were to have for their own this tract of land known as Indian Territory. So the Five Tribes set up their government, each holding to its own tribal forms. There was not even an Indian Commissioner sent to keep more or less paternal guardianship over them. But the whites came in, intermarried with the squaws, cheated the easy-going and indolent full-bloods and gradually gained control of the government. Then the United States Government stepped in to limit the power of the whites and preserve the rights of the Indians.

Despite disabilities imposed upon them, the whites kept pouring in, and, as their number increased, they so vehemently demanded recognition that the Government decided on a readjustment in the interest of all concerned. The advances of the commission first appointed to visit the Five Tribes in 1893 were slow and halting, though well planned. For three years they could do nothing but ride over the Territory and meet the leading Indians, who promised to do much, but never did anything. Then they sent out the report that the Indians were harboring outlaws who committed crimes in other States, that the full-bloods were being deceived as to the real intentions of the United States toward their government, and the half-bloods, who at that time had control of the affairs of the Indian government, were using every means to thwart the purposes of the Commissioners, all of which was true.

Congress replied to this appeal by delving into the treaties with the Indians and there finding a clause whereby it could deprive the Indian courts of their jurisdiction whenever it saw fit. Certainly now was the opportune time, and an act was forthwith passed. The Indians squirmed and the full-bloods threatened to rise. Some of the old full-blood judges refused to quit their benches, but finally they learned it was of no use to kick—the act would be carried out. Other drastic measures were suggested by the commission, and the Indians began to make overtures. Little by little, they were persuaded to the steps which have led to the abolishment of the tribal rule. Though comprehending fully that the change would accrue greatly to their individual advantage the Indians held tenaciously to the traditions of the tribes and surrendered them only when they saw the new movement inevitable.

When the division is made those who have fought so hard and so loud against it will be probably the richest savages in the world. The country which will be parcelled out among them is larger than the State of South Carolina, and of great beauty and variety. Most of the soil is very fertile. The water supply is ample. A belt of splendid oak forest thirty miles in width runs through the Territory, and many other valuable woods are found there. Rich pasture lands afford fat grazing for thousands of sheep and cattle. Two million dollars' worth of coal was taken out of Indian Territory last year. It is estimated that the products of the soil for the year 1898 amounted to $6,000,000. Besides these things, petroleum in large quantities is known to lie beneath the soil and valuable veins of lead and zinc are indicated by rich outcroppings which have never been mined. A fine climate and beautiful scenery make this country one of the garden spots of the nation.

All this goes to about 87,000 Indians, 19,998,836 acres being divided about equally among the different tribes. There are Indians and freedmen (negroes whose ancestors were or who are themselves freed slaves of Indians) who have head rights in the different nations as follows: Cherokee freedmen, 4,000; Cherokees, 30,000; Delawares having head right in Cherokee nations, 1,000; Creeks, 10,000; Creek freedmen, 6,000; Choctaws, 16,000; Choctaw freedmen, 5,000; Chickasaws, 7,000; Chickasaw freedmen, 5,000; Seminoles, 3,000. The Cherokees have invested or lent to the United States $2,035,000. The Creeks have $2,000,000 thus lent, the Chickasaws $1,308,000, the Choctaws $546,000 and the Seminoles $1,500,000. It is estimated by Tams Bixby, chairman of the Commission to the Five Tribes, that each Cherokee citizen will get 120 acres of land of average value as his allotment, the Creeks will get between 160 and 200 acres, the Seminoles about 160, the Chickasaws and Choctaws about 500 acres each. Besides this land they will get equal shares of the invested funds which are to be paid to them just as soon as they have all selected their allotments.

What will become of these Indians thus suddenly enriched? In the opinion of many, the outlook is not hopeful. Conditions at present are in a chaotic state, and it does not seem likely that living conditions will improve when the Indians own the Territory. Towns with a population of five or six thousand people have no sidewalks at all and no roads worthy of the name. After a heavy rain business is practically suspended. The buildings are of the flimsiest character. In the farming districts the Indians will not improve their farms, because they have no positive assurance where they can take up their allotments. Few of the full-bloods send their children to school.

At present the whites, of whom there are 300,000 in the Territory, have practically no rights. They cannot own land, and prior to a recent decision they have not even been allowed to own houses or stocks of merchandise, so that any white desiring to do business must do it under the name of an Indian or of an inter-married citizen having Indian rights. Many whites married squaws, thus obtaining tribal rights, and the half-breed children of these unions are the most intelligent and progressive members of the Indian community. Others paid the monthly tax of 50 cents and hired out to the indolent Indian farm owners or storekeepers, accumulating money by industry.

It is from this class that the danger to the Indians portends. These whites know the value of the lands. They have or can get money. As soon as the Indian takes up his allotment it is his to do with what he pleases. There is little doubt that in most cases, as regards the full-bloods, who make up about one-third of the total Indian population, they will sell out to the whites. It is generally predicted that they will sell out almost in a body, and emigrate to Mexico to find a wilderness wherein they can rear another edifice of tribal mismanagement, while the half-breeds will remain to become citizens of the new State that will eventually be made out of Indian Territory. Wily fellows are these half-breeds, who well understand the value of what is coming to them. Far and wide they have roamed, prospecting for lead, zinc, coal and oil and their discoveries they have kept secret, with a view to getting their allotments where these treasures lie. Then when local or Eastern capital comes with money in both hands the half-breed will be in a position to get about what he asks.

Tourists from the East visit Indian Territory rather expecting that wild Indians, clad in blankets and gorgeous paint, will be found hanging around the town and railway stations and avidly eyeing the scalp of the paleface invader. Instead one meets a race of dark-skinned people, some highly educated and glad to meet you, others a little stubborn with the deeply imbedded hatred of their race against the whites, but all far above the blanket Indian of the reservation.

They come quietly and peacefully to the enrollment places, making of the enrollment days a sort of picnic. Most of them, even the full-bloods, wear the dress of civilization. One of the men who will become a citizen of the United States is Zeke Proctor, a Cherokee and a bad Indian. Several years ago he killed seven men near Westville and shot the deputy marshal who tried to arrest him. As a rule the full-bloods are docile, and even kindly, but they have not the ability or energy of the half-breeds, and it is probable that they will soon become extinct. At present the Five Tribes are the plutocrats of the American Indian race. What they will be after they have come into their full heritage is a problem upon the solution of which may depend the Government's treatment of all its other wards. Should this scheme of naturalizing these Indians prove a success, it may be repeated with other tribes.—New York Sun.

### Work of Gossips.

Men in large cities either do not marry at all or wait until late in life. This is the reason why people in small towns marry young. Two people commence going together. Within a month the gossips begin commenting on what a nice couple they are, and predicting that they will marry. Things drift along this way until the gossips become impatient, and then they begin abusing the man, and say that he is just fooling the girl and will cast her aside. The girl hears this, tells her lover, and suggests that they marry. The man gets mad at the gossips and marries the girl. Marriages are not made in heaven. They are made by the gossips in a small town. Not one man in ten wants to marry. The average man is in love with his liberty, independence and lack of responsibility, so if the girls want to marry they may consider the gossips their faithful allies.—Early (Iowa) News.

### A Trolley in the Straits Settlement.

The Sultan of Johore has come under the mysterious influence of the American trolley, and, like all other civilized and uncivilized rulers who have made its acquaintance, he at once sought to enlighten his countrymen. As a result he has placed an order with an American firm amounting to nearly $1,000,000 for an electric street railway equipment, complete in every detail. This road is intended for Johore, a native Indian principality, situated in the extreme southern portion of the Malay Peninsula and separated from the Anglo-Indian city of Singapore in the Straits Settlements by only a narrow strip of land. The acceptance of the order, says the Electrical Review, carries with it the installation of the road and the training of the Malays in its operation and maintenance.

All Australian race courses are oval, and from one and a quarter to one and a half miles each in circumference.

The wedding ring always fits the hand of fate.

# Good Roads Notes

### Oneida's Experiment.

THE experiment in roadmaking by county prisoners undertaken two years ago by the Board of Supervisors of Oneida County has gone far enough to enable some judgment to be formed of its practical value. The second section of road built under the system has just been completed, and statistics of cost are available for comparison with the cost of good macadam roads built under contract. The Oneida County Supervisors in the fall of 1899, after nearly a year of planning, purchased a road outfit, including a twelve-ton steam roller, a stone crusher and self-dumping wagons, at a cost of $9,000, and offered to contract with the towns and villages for the construction of roads by the labor of the prisoners in the Utica jail. The county charges 25 cents a head for each day's work of eight hours actually performed, and $2.50 a day for the services of the engineer employed for the steam roller. In addition it requires the road district or village to furnish coal and road material and supervise the construction according to specifications agreed upon.

The first road building was undertaken last fall of a section seven-eighths of a mile long and sixteen feet wide in the village of Vernon. This was not entirely satisfactory, owing to the experimental nature of the work. A large amount of preliminary labor had to be performed in developing a quarry, and the cost of the road and the time occupied in construction were unexpectedly great. After a year's wear, however, it is in perfect condition without any repairs. In May a contract was made with Road District No. 1 of the town of Whitestown for the construction of a road one and three-tenths miles in length through the village of New York Mills. The New York State specifications were adopted and strictly enforced, careful accounts were kept and valuable data are preserved for the use of other towns and counties.

For 250 feet the road was 10 feet wide; for 4,760 feet, 16 feet wide, and for 1,900 feet, 20 feet wide. The macadam was six inches thick, with a crown of half an inch to the foot. Thirty-four prisoners on an average were employed; 2,109 cubic yards of 2½-inch crushed limestone and 703 cubic yards of half-inch crushed limestone were used. The time occupied in construction of the road and on accessory drainage was fourteen weeks. The total cost of the 6,910 feet of road, including wages of prisoners and all materials, was $5,873.36, or $4,517.96 a mile. A piece of State road adjoining, of equal length, built by contract, cost $9,500. The Utica Press gives the following interesting figures of other roads built under the Higbie-Armstrong law:

Troy and Schenectady road, Schenectady County, two miles, $16,517.51.

Deerfield, near Utica, Oneida County, two and a quarter miles, $16,338.39.

Hamburg, south of Buffalo, Erie County, six and a half miles, about $30,000.

Lebanon road to Massachusetts line, Columbia County, one and a quarter miles, $9,992.87.

The Oneida County League for Good Roads is enthusiastic over the success of the work, and hopes for the wider adoption of the plan. Mr. F. C. Walcott, superintendent of some of the factories of the New York Mills Company, the largest taxpayer in the road district, assisted in supervising the road building, and in a report to the State Engineer points out some objectionable features of the present system. The law making an allowance to the Sheriff for prisoners' food and permitting him to save what he can from it he thinks should be changed. Prisoners at hard labor outdoors need more food than when in jail, and the Sheriff is under strong temptation either to feed the men inadequately or to oppose the outdoor work which cuts down his profits. The county furnishes one guard for each eight prisoners. They are entirely under control of the Sheriff. Mr. Walcott finds that for lack of authority over them the Highway Commissioner is sometimes unable to secure perfect discipline or exact a fair amount of work from them. These defects could easily be remedied. In spite of them road building by county prisoners is a great success. It is good for the prisoners, and it makes possible good roads in places where the expense of other labor renders improvement hopeless. By the expenditure of the present wasted road taxes for prison labor on the construction of permanent macadam roads the towns of New York in a few years could obtain a fine system of highways to supplement the main thoroughfares to be built by the State. The Board of Supervisors in every county would do well to follow the example of Oneida and turn the occupants of their jails to good use.—New York Tribune.

### Familiarity Breeds Contempt.

A lady went into a pastrycook's shop the other day. On the counter were displayed all sorts of toothsome dainties. The only attendant was a little girl about ten years of age.

"Isn't it a great temptation to you, my dear?" asked the lady, "to see all these nice things? You must always be wanting to eat them."

"Oh! no, ma'am," was the answer; "it is enough for me to see them made."—Illustrated Bits.

Professor Lloyd Morgan, in a recent address, stated he had found that young chickens taken straight from the incubator, could swim very well, the power of swimming being perfectly instinctive.